



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:
Yong Zhang et al.

Serial No. 09/990,598

Filed: 11/20/2001

For: PORTABLE LOW-POWER
GAS DISCHARGE LASER

Examiner:

Art Unit: 2881

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In the above entitled application, please enter the following amendments:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 32 and 38 as follows:

32. (amended) A gas discharge laser, comprising:

a discharge tube made of low loss dielectric material and containing laser gas, the discharge tube having a first end and a second end;

a pair of electrodes located adjacent to and outside of the discharge tube and disposed on opposite sides of it, the electrodes causing a laser discharge to occur in the tube, the electrodes not in physical contact with the laser discharge;

an output coupler located near the first end of the discharge tube and flexibly sealed to the discharge tube with an elastomeric seal; and

a mirror located near the second end of the discharge tube, to form a laser cavity along the inside of the discharge tube between the mirror and the output coupler.